

JAMES HAT-TRICK IN TEN BY WYCOMBE

Sports Mail Special Report

WITH the forwards in excellent form again in spite of the treacherous rain-soaked pitch Wycombe Wanderers were three goals up within half an hour in their Isthmian League game against Ilford and led by four clear goals at half-time.

Wycombe Wanderers: Syrett, Beck, Moring, Truett, Fisher, Fryer, Worley, Trott, James, Bates, Free.

Ilford: Bush, Saxby, Belchamber, Neale, Norman, McKendry, Platt, Welsby, Morris, Winch, Seidenbird. Referee: R Pearce (Canning Town).

From Worley's corner kick BECK opened the scoring for Wycombe with a brilliant 30-yard drive ten minutes after the start. Wycombe continued to set

the pace, and after Free had shot just wide from a centre from James he provided a pass which enabled BATES in an electrifying solo run to beat three defenders and increase Wycombe's lead after 18 minutes.

Much more forceful in attack and showing better teamwork, Wycombe continued to harass the visitors' defence, and after 29 minutes TROTT took a pass from Fryer to score a third.

Wycombe's skipper, Moring, was off the field for ten minutes with an injured knee, but shortly after his return, five minutes before half-time, centre-forward PETER JAMES claimed Wycombe's fourth with a brilliant shot from 25 yards out.

Half-time: Wycombe Wanderers 4, Ilford 0.

Then a neat pass by Free enabled JAMES to score No. five for Wycombe in the 50th minute. Three minutes later another perfectly placed centre by Free gave JAMES a similar chance which he accepted with a neat header.

There was now no stopping the Wycombe forwards and in the 57th minute a long range shot by Worley was diverted into the goal by left half McKendry for number seven and three minutes later FREE claimed the eighth with a shot which trickled in off the up-right.

As Wycombe slackened the pace, Ilford had slightly more of the play towards the end, but they were unable to prevent BATES from adding another.

RESULT

WYCOMBE WANDERERS 10
ILFORD 0

WYCOMBE ZIP TO 10-GOAL WIN

Wycombe 10, Ilford 0

WYCOMBE WANDERERS' high-powered marksmen, the most prolific in the Isthmian League, hit their highest score of the season in a League clash with lowly placed Ilford, who have not won at Wycombe for 25 years.

With two reserves in a reshuffled defence, Ilford floundered helplessly against the remorseless assault of a sparkling Wycombe attack. The introduction of Peter James, at centre forward, with Bates at inside left, has made a vast difference to the thrust of the Wycombe front line, and with wingers Worley and Free in top form they did what they liked.

It was a tough test for Ilford's reserve keeper, Dickie Bush, but he put up a gallant display in face of the goal-rush, and many plucky saves prevented an even heavier reverse.

Right-back Johnny Beck started the Wycombe goal-spree within 10 minutes, with a 30-yard drive that deceived Bush and Bates. Trott and James made it four-nil by half-time. James completed a brilliant "hat-trick" with two more, both from centres by Free early in the second half, and as Ilford tottered Worley, Free and Bates, with two more, made it double-figures before the end.